18 WAYS TO MAKE EMPLOYERS NOTICE YOU!

DO YOU WONDER WHAT LOCKDOWN ACTIVITY WILL IMPRESS FUTURE EMPLOYERS? HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS:

MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU: It's vital you do something enjoyable purely for yourself and your wellbeing. You may never again have such freedom to plan your own timetable. Binge-watch that tv series, subscribe to that podcast, lose yourself in a book and enjoy the strategy or challenge of your favourite game.

BE ORGANISED: YOUR OWN BALANCED, FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE WILL INCREASE YOUR FOCUS AND PURPOSE. WHY NOT DIP INTO SPRINGPOD'S 'LEARN LOUNGE', FLEDGLINK'S 'LEARN NOW' TIMETABLE OR BBC BITESIZE TOO?

BON'T WAIT FOR OPPORTUNITY! CREATE IT! DEVELOP THAT IDEA! WRITE THAT BOOK! START THAT PODCAST! THE MORE YOU TRY, THE MORE YOU ADAPT AND THE MORE YOU GROW.

LEARN A NEW SKILL: START A NEW CRAFT (PAINTING, COOKING, GARDENING, DIY), MUSICAL INSTRUMENT (GUITAR) OR LANGUAGE (SIGN, SHORTHAND, SPANISH, CODING).

Exercise! Your mind and body need pampering and attention. Jigsaws, puzzles, quizzes or reading will stimulate your mind, while dance, yoga, jogging, walking or cycling may perk up your physical health. Why not Create your own workout?

Explore! BE CURIOUS! RESEARCH AND FOCUS ON: E.G. 5 PROFESSIONS, 5 GLOBAL COMPANIES, 5 LOCAL EMPLOYERS AND 5 HASHTAGS, DOCUMENTING SIGNIFICANT INFO AS YOU GO. REMEMBER #ITSOKNOTTOKNOW, BUT CURIOSITY WILL HELP.

BUILD COMMERCIAL AWARENESS: Now is the time to develop detailed knowledge of an area you are considering post school: e.g. if you're interested in Law, why not sign up for the Lawcareers.net newsletter, explore training options, register for Vantage or listen to recommended podcasts.

BTHINK VIRTUAL FOR WORK EXPERIENCE: CONSIDER DISRUPTIVE APPS LIKE DEBUT, FLEDGLINK, SPRINGPOD AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS THAT CAN LINK YOU TO EMPLOYER AMBASSADORS, TALENT POOLS, WEBINARS, VIRTUAL PLACEMENTS AND INSIGHT EVENTS.

9 STAY CONNECTED AND COMMUNICATE! WHETHER IT'S HOUSEPARTY, WHATSAPP, ZOOM, FACETIME ET AL, STAY SOCIAL AND UPDATED.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME! IF SAFE TO DO SO, HELP A NEIGHBOUR, CALL A RELATIVE, RAISE AWARENESS OF A CAMPAIGN CLOSE TO YOU, MENTOR YOUNGER PUPILS ETC.

DEMONSTRATE TEAMWORK! ENJOY VIRTUAL ACTIVITY WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY. ENGAGE FULLY WITH YOUR NETWORK AND PROVE YOUR VALUE IN A TEAM.

12 Apprenticeships v University? Find out what each involves and think about which would suit you. The best option is the best option for you!

1 B PROVE, FIND AND EXTEND AN INTEREST WITH MOOCS: These free online courses offer future evidence of your intentions, allow reflection on choices and often open areas you'd never find on the **GCSE** or A-level curriculum.

1 4 Show Attitude! Your potential is unlimited. Employers want your enthusiasm and charisma. They can train the right people for the skills they need to develop.

T 5 PRACTISE VIDEO OR PHONE INTERVIEWS: A RECIPROCAL TASK WITH YOUR FRIENDS? OR MAYBE TRY FREE MOCK DIGITAL INTERVIEWS DEVELOPED BY CAPGEMINI.

6 WRITE OR UPDATE YOUR CV: A KEY INTRODUCTORY MARKETING TOOL THAT YOU NEED TO TARGET TO ENSURE YOU LAND AN INTERVIEW FOR PART-TIME WORK.

T ENHANCE YOUR DIGITAL FOOTPRINT: CREATE A PROFESSIONAL PROFILE ON LINKEDIN, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, YOUTUBE OR THE PLATFORM BEST SUITED TO YOU.

18 Make IT Count! Education is Lifelong and mainly happens outside the classroom. Whatever you decide to do, try and ensure you make it work best for you. Employers will always value quality and depth over quantity.